



FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 1

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 1

Read:

Genesis 1:1-23

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who created everything?

Do you remember what happened on day 1? 2? 3? 4? 5?

Which day was your favorite day?

What is your favorite thing God made?

Activity:

Go and look out at the sun, the ground, the birds and the trees.

Ask your children which day those things were made.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we are so thankful that you made everything ever! Thank you for the day and the night, the water and the land, the birds and the fish, and thank you for making us! Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 2

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 1:24-2:3, 2:15-24

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Do you remember what happened on day 6?

What did God do on day 7?

What was Adam's job in the garden of Eden?

What was the one rule that God told Adam to follow?

What would happen if Adam ate from the tree of good and evil?

God said it was not good for Adam to be alone, so what did God make?

Activity:

God created everything. God created every single tree, rock, and animal. If you were God, what animal would you make? Have your child create their own animal (they could draw it, or act it out), then have them tell you all about it, and finally have them name it!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, you're amazing! You made us in your very own image! Thank you for making the animals, for making boys and girls, and for showing us how important it is to take days of rest. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 3

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7, 3:23

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was the one rule that God told Adam to follow?

What would happen if Adam ate from the tree of good and evil?

What animal talked to Eve?

What did the snake say to Eve?

Did Adam and Eve eat the fruit?

What happened to Adam and Eve when they didn't follow the rules?

Activity:

God had one rule for Adam and Eve to follow, do not eat from the tree of good and evil. Ask your child what they think is the one biggest rule in your house. Tell them what you think is the one biggest rule in the house. Then together, write down that rule, decorate it, and hang it up somewhere so they can see it this week.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that, just like Adam and Eve we all make mistakes, but help us to know right from wrong. God, help us to always remember that, no matter what we do, you will forgive us if we ask you. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 4

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 7:6-21

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did Noah build?

How long did it rain?

How many of each animal did Noah take?

Why do you think Noah took two of each animal?

Activity:

The ark was about 500 feet long and 50 feet high! Go outside and try to determine how long and how tall the ark would be. Use trees, houses, or whatever you have around to help get a picture of the massive size of the ark.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

“Dear God, sometimes we get scared of the storms in our lives. Help us to know that you are there for us no matter what happens. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.”

Friday - Day 5

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 8:1-4, 9:8-17

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

How long were Noah and his family on the boat before it hit Mount Ararat?

What promise did God make to Noah?

What was the sign of the promise God made with Noah?

Why is it important to keep our promises?

Activity:

Go outside with a hose and spray a mist to create your own rainbow. Talk about the colors in the rainbow.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for the sign of a rainbow. Thank you for its beauty and help us to remember that every time we see it, we can know that you will always keep your promises. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 6

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 11:1-9

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did the people want to build?

Why did the people want to build such a tall tower?

What did God do to the people as a punishment?

How does that punishment (of speaking different languages) effect us today?

Activity:

Grab some blocks and build the tallest tower that you can. If you want a tougher challenge, use cards.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, help us to know how to work together with other people, but also help us to remember that we should follow you above everything else in this whole wide world. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 7

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 2

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Monday - Day 8

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 15:1-6, 17:1-8

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

When God promised Abraham a blessing, what was Abraham worried about?

What two things did God promise Abram?

Do you know what the land of Canaan is called today?

What did God change Abrams name to?

Activity:

One night, take your children out to a place where you can see the stars. Try to count them for a little while. Then remind your children of the story when God promised Abraham that, one day, Abraham would have a family with as many children as there are stars in the sky. Think of how many people that would be!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we remember how you kept your promise to Noah and we know you kept your promise to Abraham. Thank you for always keeping your promises to us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 9

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Genesis 18:1-2, 18:9-10, 21:1-7

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God promise in our story yesterday?

What did God promise Sarah in our story today?

What did Sarah have in the story today?

How old was Abraham when Sarah had the baby?

How old do you think (pick a couple of people you know, grandparents or older) are?

Can you imagine them having a baby to take care of?

Activity:

Go to youtube.com and type in, "Father Abraham Song with Lyrics Kids." Sing and dance to the song together.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, you're amazing! We know that even when we can't see you, you are there with us. Thank you for life and for our parents who raised us from when we were babies. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 10

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Today we will see what happens with Abraham's son Isaac when he had two little sons of his own.

Read:

Genesis 25:24-34

Note: A birthright was, "A special honor given to the firstborn son. It included a double portion of the family inheritance along with the honor of one day becoming the family's leader." - From the NLT Study Bible

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What were the names of Isaac's two sons?

What did Esau like to do?

What did Jacob like to do?

What did Esau sell Jacob?

What did Esau get in return?

Activity:

Make a bowl of soup with a meal one day this week. Have your child look at everything around them. Point out the house, the toys, the clothes, and everything else they have. Ask your child if they would trade all of that for a bowl of soup. Then talk about how that's what Esau did with Jacob.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, help me to always be thankful for the things you have given us. Don't let us be greedy like Jacob and take things that aren't ours. And don't let us be foolish like Esau and forget the gifts you have given us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 11

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?
Today we will see what happens with Jacob's son Joseph.

Read:

Genesis 37:1-4, 37:12-14

Questions:

What happened in today's story?
Do you have any questions about today's story?
What did Isaac give to Joseph?
Why did Isaac give Joseph a beautiful robe?
Why did Joseph's brothers not like Joseph?
What did Isaac ask Joseph to do at the end of the story?

Activity:

Find the most colorful and wild clothing you have in the house. Put it all on and have a silly fashion show just like Joseph did with his colorful coat.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, you have given us so much. Help us to remember those who don't have as much as we do. Help us never to show off because we think we are better than other people, but instead help us to love and help those who have less just like you love us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 12

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?
Remind them what happened at the end of the last story (or reread 37:12-14).

Read:

Genesis 37:18-36

Questions:

What happened in today's story?
Do you have any questions about today's story?
How did Joseph's brothers feel about Joseph?
What did Joseph's brothers do when Joseph came up to see them?
How do you think Joseph felt about how his brothers treated him?
What did they do with Joseph at the end of the story?
Where did Joseph end up living as a slave?

Activity:

When Joseph was a slave he had to do everything told to do, no matter how silly or hard it was. Play a game of Simon Says to help you understand what it's like to have to do everything another person says.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for my family. We pray that we if we every make people in our family mad that we go and ask for forgiveness. We pray that when we get mad at someone in our family, we go talk to them instead of being mean to them. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 13

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? Where did Joseph end up living as a slave?

Read:

Genesis 41:1-4, 41:14-16, 41:29-41

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Why did the Pharaoh send for Joseph?

What did Joseph tell Pharaoh his dreams meant?

How long was the famine going to last?

What did Pharaoh do for Joseph at the end of the story?

Activity:

You and your child both talk about a dream that you've had. Take time to draw out your dream on a piece of paper.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for taking care of us. We know that sometimes we go through troubles in our lives, but help us to always remember to come to you when we have troubles. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 14

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

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Monday - Day 15

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened? What had Joseph's brothers done to Joseph? What was Joseph doing when we ended? What was going to happen in the Land of Egypt?

Read:

Please begin with: Just as Joseph had predicted, the famine had begun and no one had enough food.

Genesis 42:1-8, 45:1-8, 45:12-15, 50:19-21

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Why did Joseph's brothers go to Egypt?

How did Joseph react to seeing his brothers?

How did Joseph's brothers react to seeing Joseph?

Did Joseph punish his brothers? What did he do instead?

Activity:

Pick a meal and have your child help serve your family the food, the same way Joseph helped his family get food in the time of famine.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, even though Joseph's brothers were mean to Joseph, Joseph helped them out. Help us to remember to help other people, even when they are mean to us because you love them and we should love them too. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 16

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? Where were Joseph and his family when the story ended?

Read:

Exodus 1:6-11, 2:1-10

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did the Egyptians do to Joseph's grandkids (the Israelites) after Joseph died?

What was the baby's name?

What did Moses' mother do with baby Moses?

Who found baby Moses?

Activity:

If you have a river or stream nearby visit it. Otherwise the next time it rains, find a little stream that has formed from runoff. Take a leaf or a stick (depending on the size of your stream) and watch it flow along the stream and talk about how Moses floated down the river in his basket just like that.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we are so thankful that you look after each of us, just like you looked after Moses. Help us to remember that you are always there for us, even when times are hard. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 17

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Exodus 3:1-14

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God appear to Moses as?

What did God ask Moses to do before he came close to the burning bush?

Why did God ask Moses to take off his sandals?

Who did God ask Moses to go and talk to?

When Moses asked who was sending him, what did God say?

Activity:

Go set a bush on fire! (That was a joke. Seriously, do NOT set a bush on fire.) Just like Moses had to listen to God when God gave Moses directions, we have to listen to God when he gives us directions. Play a game of, "Red Light, Green Light" and explain how following God's directions helps us do our best.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, you are amazing! Thank you for being with us everywhere we go, even when we are scared. Help us to listen when you talk to us and help us to always remember to talk to you in prayer every day. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 18

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? Who was Moses supposed to go to visit? What was Moses supposed to tell the Pharaoh?

Read:

Exodus 5:1-2,

Here is the list of the ten plagues with the verses:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Blood (7:19) | 6. Boils (9:10-12) |
| 2. Frogs (8:5-6) | 7. Hail (9:22-23) |
| 3. Gnats (8:16-17) | 8. Locust (10:3-5) |
| 4. Flies (8:21) | 9. Darkness (10:20-22) |
| 5. Livestock Die (9:5-6) | 10. Death of Firstborn (12:12-13) |

Exodus 12:31

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Did Pharaoh want to let Moses and the Israelites go at first?

What happened when Pharaoh refused to let Moses and the Israelites go?

How many plagues were there?

Did Pharaoh let Moses and the Israelites go by the end of the story?

Activity:

Pick a plague or two and have your kids act it out. Hop and croak like frogs. Buzz like flies. Scratch your boils. Stand in darkness. Etc.

List of the ten plagues:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Blood | 6. Boils |
| 2. Frogs | 7. Hail |
| 3. Gnats | 8. Locust |
| 4. Flies | 9. Darkness |
| 5. Livestock Die | 10. Death of Firstborn |

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that Pharaoh did not want to follow you. I pray that we are willing to follow you, no matter what you ask us to do. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 19

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?
Do you remember what happened at the end of the story?

Read:

Exodus 14:21-31

Questions:

What happened in today's story?
Do you have any questions about today's story?
What did God tell Moses to do?
What happened to the waters when Moses raised his hands?
What did the Israelites do when the waters parted?
What happened when the Israelites got on the other side of the waters?

Activity:

Put a shallow amount of water in a large thin dish such as a square baking pan. Then allow your child to try separate the waters. They can use their hands or blow or whatever they can think of. Tell them that while we might be able to make a small dry spot for a moment, God was able to make a whole sea part long enough for people to walk all the way across it!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, please keep us safe like you did the people of Israel. We know that if you are strong enough to part the seas you are also able to take care of us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 20

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Exodus 19:1-3, 20:1-17

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Do you remember how many rules God gave Adam to follow?

How many rules did God give Moses and the Israelites to follow?

Do you know what the 10 rules God gave to Moses are called?

Where did God have Moses go to get the 10 commandments?

Can you remember any of the 10 commandments?

Activity:

The 10 commandments were written on stone, but writing on stone is not easy, but painting is. Find a stone and paint a word or one of the 10 commandments on it. Think about how the 10 commandments must have looked with all those words written on the stone. Then take the stone and place it some place for other people to find.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

“Dear God, you gave us rules to follow because you love us and want to keep us safe. Help us to follow those rules because we love you. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.”

Sunday - Day 21

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 4

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. These are based off of the My First Bible that we use at Genesis Boyne. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 22

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Numbers 13:1-3, 13:21-33

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God tell Moses to do?

How many spies did Moses send?

What did the spies bring back with them?

What were the good things the spies said about the land?

Did most of the spies think that they could take the land?

Why did they not think they could take the land?

Activity:

Pick a place to go together and explore. It could be a park, a nature trail, or just a part of your neighborhood you don't often go to. Pretend to be spies checking out the area (depending on where you go, potentially bring home a specimen of what you found, like a pine cone). When you get home, give a report of your adventures and discovery.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that giants might be big but, we know you are much bigger. Help us to never be scared or worry because you love us and you will always take care of us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 23

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What did the spies report to the Israelite people?

Read:

Please begin with: After the spies report, the Israelites were scared. Even though God had told them that he would help them move into Canaan, the Israelites didn't want to go. God was sad that the Israelites would not follow Him. He told the Israelites that, if they didn't want to live in Canaan, they would have to go and live in the wilderness for 40 years. Then, after 40 years, God would let their children go and live in Canaan. This story takes place during the Israelites 40 years living in the wilderness.

Numbers 22:20-35

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was standing in the way of Balaam and his donkey?

How did the donkey act when he saw the angel of the Lord?

How did Balaam act when the donkey misbehaved?

How did Balaam act when the angel of the Lord appeared to Him?

What did the angel of the Lord tell Balaam to do?

Activity:

Watch a video of a parrot talking. Explain how parrots can mimic voices, but can't talk on their own (in human language at least). Talk about what you think your pet (if you have one, or a specific animal you might know if you don't) would say if they could talk.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for the fun story of a talking donkey! We love the Bible and how you've given it to us to show us that you love us. Help us to be like Balaam and only say the things that you want us to say. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 24

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? Do you remember how long the Israelites had to live in the wilderness?

Read:

Please begin with: For the Israelites, the 40 years of living in the wilderness was finished. Now all the children of the Israelites had grown up and they were ready to follow God and go into Canaan. Their leader was a man named Joshua.

Joshua 6:1-5, 6:12-15, 6:20

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God ask Joshua and the Israelites to do?

How many days did they have to march around Jericho?

How many times did they have to march around Jericho on the seventh day?

What did the Israelites do after marched around the seventh time on the seventh day?

What happened to Jericho?

Activity:

Make a horn out of a piece of paper. Then build a tower out of blocks or whatever you have around the house. March around it seven times, then blow on the horn, shout, and knock the tower down.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, you are amazing! Thank you for giving us stories like Joshua and the wall of Jericho to show us how powerful you are and that we can always trust you to take care of us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 25

Read:

Please begin with: A few weeks ago we read about Abraham. Do you remember who Abraham was? Today we're going to go back and look at a story we read about Abraham before where God made a promise and see how that promise is fulfilled.

Genesis 17:1-8

Questions:

What two things did God promise Abraham?

What was the land that God promised Abraham's grandchildren called?

Recap:

Please begin with: Do you remember what happened in the story yesterday? What happened? Do you know where Jericho is located? (Canaan) Jericho was the first part of God's promise that the land of Canaan would be given to Israel.

Read:

Joshua 11:23

Questions:

In this story, Joshua and the Israelites finally see God's promise fulfilled. What happens in this story?

Did God do what he promised to Abraham and give the land of Canaan to his grandchildren?

Activity:

It took over 400 years for God to fulfill his promise to Abraham. That length of time is difficult for a child (or even an adult) to understand. Promise your child a cookie or a toy or some reward. Tell them you will give it to them in 400 hours. (FYI: That's 17 days, so you might want to put a reminder on your phone or all the calendar). Continue to remind them of that promise but don't let them know how much time has passed, only that you will fulfill your promise when the time has come. Explain to them that God always keeps his promises, sometimes we just have to wait for them until the right time.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we pray that we can be patient in waiting for your promises. We also pray that we be thankful and know that you always keep your promises. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 26

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Judges 6:11-16, 36-40

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who came to visit Gideon while he was outside working?

What did the angel of the Lord say Gideon was going to do?

What was the first thing Gideon asked the angel of the Lord to do as a test?

What was the second thing Gideon asked the angel of the Lord to do as a test?

Activity:

Gideon had two tests for God. First, the fleece was wet but the ground around it was dry. Then, the ground was wet and the fleece was dry. Tonight, take a towel and lay it out outside. In the morning go see if it is wet or dry and see whether the ground is wet or dry. Odds are both will either be wet or dry (or God did a miracle for you). Remind your child that in Gideon's case one was wet and the other was dry to show God's power to Gideon.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that not only do you control what is wet and what is dry, you control everything in the whole wide world. Help us to come to you when we feel like we don't understand things or they feel out of control. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 27

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Judges 7:1-8, (*tell your child that in Judges 8:10, it tells that the Midianite army had 120,000 men*), 7:16-21

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

How many men did Gideon start with?

Why did God tell Gideon to get rid of his men?

How many men did Gideon end up with?

How many men did the Midianite army have?

Activity:

This story has a lot of similarities too David and Goliath in that it is a small number verses a massive number, but God comes through. With something you have a massive number of (lego bricks, Cheerio's, etc.) set up 120. Then use something different so they can tell the difference, and set up 3. Ask your child who they think would win between the two armies. Then read Matthew 19:26 and remind them that with God on our side, all things are possible.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that even when things look bad, you are always with us. Please remind us you there with us when we have bad days. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 28

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 5

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 29

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Ruth 1:1-8, 1:16-19 (to the end of the first sentence in verse 19)

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What were the two reasons that Naomi left her home in the country of Moab?

Do you remember another story we read where there was a famine? (Joseph, Days 13 & 15)

Who decided to go with Naomi?

Where did Ruth and Naomi end up living?

The little town of Bethlehem might sound familiar to you. Do you know anyone else from the Bible who was born in Bethlehem?

Activity:

Tell your child that you're going somewhere (across the house, to the back yard, wherever).

Have your child be Ruth and say, "Wherever you go, I'll go with you!" Then give your child a piggy back ride to the destination and tell them, "We made it here together, just like Ruth and Naomi."

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for our families. Help us to always love them and remember how special they are. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 30

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Ruth 2:15-23, 4:13-17 (Depending on your translation and the age of your child, you might want to leave out the second part of verse 13.)

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was Ruth doing as a job?

Who owned the field in which Ruth was working?

What ended up happening between Ruth and Boaz?

The women said that they hoped Ruth's children would become famous throughout Israel.

One of them did become famous, Ruth's great-grandson. Their son was named Obed. Their grandson was named Jessie. What was the name of Ruth's great-grandson at the end of the story?

Do you know any other Bible stories about David?

Activity:

Boaz did many kind things for Ruth because she was in need. Encourage your child to do something kind for someone in need this week. (Examples: Write a card to someone who is sick or sad. Buy food for a homeless person. Create a care package for a missionary.) Ask your child how they felt about being kind to someone who was in need.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, help us to remember to always be kind to people in need. We know that you love everyone in need and help us to love them too. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 31

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 3:17-21

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Where was Samuel when he heard someone talking him?

When Samuel was in bed, who did Samuel think was talking to him?

Who was really talking to Samuel?

How many times did God call out to Samuel?

What did the story say Samuel became when he grew up?

Activity:

Tonight, before bed, act out the story of Samuel and Eli. Have your child hop into bed. Then, whisper their name and have them come and talk to you. Do it three times and on the fourth time end it with having them pray the prayer below.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

“Dear God, thank you for speaking to us when we pray. We pray that we are always listening for your voice and are always willing to follow you wherever you want us to go. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.”

Thursday - Day 32

Recap:

On Monday, we read the story about Ruth and Naomi coming to a little town to live. Do you remember what that little town was called? Tuesday we read the story about Ruth and Boaz. Do you remember who Ruth and Boaz's grandson was? What about who Ruth and Boaz's great-grandson was? Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? Today we'll get to see the stories of Jessie, David, and Samuel all come together in a little town called Bethlehem.

Read:

1 Samuel 16:1, 16:4-13

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Where did God tell Samuel to go?

Why did God want Samuel to go to Bethlehem?

Jessie brought out his tallest and best looking sons, but what did God say about appearances?

What does God look at instead of appearances?

How many of Jesse's sons did he show to Samuel before he got to David?

What happened when David came to Samuel?

Activity:

Find two containers that you can't see through, a nice one (such as a jewelry box) and a beat up one (an old cardboard box). Place something nice they'd like to eat in the beat up box and something not nice they wouldn't want to eat in the nice box. Have your child guess which one contains the nice thing and they can have that as a snack. Remind them that God doesn't look who we are on outside, he looks at who are on the inside.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, help us to remember that we can't judge things by their looks. Many things that look nice are not good for us and many things that might not be pretty are wonderful on the inside. Help us to be nice and good to everyone we meet. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 33

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

1 Samuel 17:1-10, 17:32-40, 17:48-49

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was the name of the giant?

What did Goliath say to the army of Israelites?

Who came out to fight Goliath?

Why did David think he could beat Goliath?

What did David choose to fight Goliath with?

How did David beat Goliath?

Activity:

Play out being David and Goliath. Give your child a non-harmful ball (foam, hollow plastic, piece of wadded up paper). As the adult, stomp out making yourself as big as possible and challenge your child to beat you. Have them say, "I will beat you because I have GOD on my side!" and throw the object at you, then you fall down in defeat.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for giving us courage. God, we know that you are so big you created everything in the whole world! So we know that, just like with David, there is nothing too big for you. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 34

Read 1:

Please begin with: Today we're going to look back at some of the promises God has made in the stories we've looked at.

Genesis 17:1-8

- What two things did God promise Abraham?
- What was the land that God promised Abraham's grandchildren called?

Read 2:

Exodus 1:6-7; Joshua 11:23

- God promised that Abraham's grandchildren would be many and that they would live in Canaan. Did God do what he promised?

Recap:

- Do you remember what happened in our story two days ago? What did God (through Samuel) promise David that David was going to become?

Read 3:

2 Samuel 5:1-5

- Did God do what he promised?

Read 4:

Please begin with: Now we'll see God give David another promise.

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 7:12-13

- What did King David want to do for God?
- What is a house for God called today?
- Because King David loved God so much, what did God promise David? (God promised that one of David's great great great great grandson's would be a king forever!)
- Do you know who King David's great great great great grandson was? (Jesus)

Activity:

Remind your child of the promise you made them on Day 25. Continue to remind them of that promise but don't let them know much time has passed, only that you will fulfill your promise when the time has come. Explain to them that God always keeps his promises, sometimes we just have to wait for them until the right time.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you so much for keeping your promises. You kept your promises to Abraham, and to Moses, and to Joshua, and to David, and you still keep your promises to us today. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 35

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 6

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 36

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: David loved God so much that he would write songs and poetry for God. The Bible calls these songs and poetry Psalms. Today we are going to read one of the Psalms that David wrote. In this Psalm, David calls God our shepherd. Do you know what a shepherd is? Listen to this Psalm and think of God loving us like a shepherd loves his sheep.

Read Psalm 23

Questions:

Do you remember what a Psalm is?

Let's go back through the Psalm and look at the things that God does for us as our shepherd.

- God takes care of us (v2)
- God is with us when we are afraid (v4)
- God gives us strength when we're tired (v3)
- God protects us and comforts us (v5)
- God guides us on the right path (v3)
- God's love is with us our whole lives (v6)

Do you think David loved God? Why?

David wrote songs to God because he loved God so much. What is one way you can show your love to God?

Activity:

Have your child write their own poem to God. If they get ambitious they can make it into a song and sing it to everyone!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that you are our shepherd and we are your sheep. You guide us and you protect us. Help us to stay on the path that you have for us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 37

Recap:

Do you remember what the poem and song we wrote yesterday was called? Who wrote the Psalm?

Read:

Please begin with: David was the king for many years. One day, when David became older, David made his son Solomon the new king of Israel.

2 Chronicles 1:1, 1:7-13

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God say he would give Solomon as a present?

What did Solomon ask for?

Why was God so happy with what Solomon asked for?

What did God end up giving Solomon?

Activity:

God told Solomon that he would give Solomon anything he wanted. Ask your child to draw and color what they would ask for if God said he would give them anything they wanted. Then, after they are finished, have them tell you about all the things they drew. Conclude with the prayer below which will help them to remember to be thankful for what they have.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, help us to be thankful for all the things you have given us. You are so good to us every single day. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 38

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

1 Kings 17:1-9

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Where did God tell Elijah to go?

Why did God tell Elijah to go to the Kerith brook?

What brought Elijah food to eat?

If God told birds to bring you food, what food would you have them bring to you?

Where did God tell Elijah to go after the Kerith brook dried up?

Activity:

At a meal today, have your child (you can too if you want) pretend to be a bird and bring the plates, napkins, and/or silverware (depending on the break-ability of said items) to the table.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for amazing animals that you created. We love to see all the animals that you have made and we know that you love them too. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 39

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? Do you remember why there was no food? Where did God tell Elijah to go at the end of the story?

Read:

1 Kings 17:8-16

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What two things did Elijah ask the widow for?

Why didn't the widow want to give Elijah bread to eat?

How did God bless the widow and her son for being kind to Elijah?

How long did God bless Elijah, the widow, and her son with flour and oil?

Activity:

Elijah asked the widow to help him get food. Then, when the widow helped Elijah get food, Elijah was also able to help the widow get food! Today, have your child tell you how other people in your family have helped them. Then have your child choose someone (or multiple someones) in your family to help as a thank you. Together, decide on a good way to help that family member and then check with your child to make sure they did their helpful deed. Ask how it made them feel to be helpful to someone they love.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, help us to always want to help others, whether they have been helpful to us or not. We know you love and help everyone and so we should love and help everyone too. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 40

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

1 Kings 18:1, 18:20-26, 18:29-38

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal to a test. What was the test?

What happened when the prophets of Baal asked Baal to light their fire?

How many jars of water did Elijah pour over the offerings and the wood? (4 jars, 3 times = 12)

What happened when Elijah asked God to light his fire?

How did the people respond when they saw God light Elijah's fire?

Activity:

Get an absorbent paper such as a paper napkin, a paper towel, or toilet paper. Get a bowl of water and have your child dunk the absorbent paper object all the way into the water 12 times. Do not ring the paper out. Then you, the adult, use a lighter to attempt to light it on fire. It may char a little bit but it shouldn't light on fire unless you work at it for quite some time and the water disappears (or maybe if you use a blowtorch instead of a small lighter)(do NOT use a blowtorch). Explain to your child that Elijah dunked his offerings and wood in water 12 times to show how powerful God is because with God all things are possible!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for showing us how powerful you are. We pray that we can always remember that when things in our life seem hard, you are with us and there is nothing too big or too hard for you to do. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 41

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What other things happened to Elijah over the past couple of days? Do you remember what the problem was in Israel that there was no food or water was called? Well today we'll see an end to the drought!

Read:

1 Kings 18:41-46

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God tell Elijah was getting ready to come?

What did God tell Elijah to go out and look for?

How many times did Elijah have to go look for the cloud?

What super power did God give Elijah to get him to Jezerel?

Activity:

God gave Elijah the power of super speed. He was able to run faster than even horses can run! Ask your child if they could have a super hero power, what super hero power would they like to have? Have your child act out having that super power and give them a cool super hero name. Remind them of some of the fun super powered things in the Bible that people God helped people do: Moses controlled water, Elijah got super speed, Samson had super strength, Jesus walked through walls, walked on water, controlled the weather, and flew (Acts 1:9), etc.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, you are amazing! Thank you for all of the cool stories that you give us in the Bible. Help us to always remember that you gave us the Bible to help us know you better. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 42

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 7

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 43

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

2 Kings 5:1, 5:9-17

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What problem did Naaman have?

Who did Naaman go to visit to see about being healed of his leprosy?

What did Elisha tell him to do?

Did Naaman want to do it? Why not?

What happened when Naaman went and dipped in the Jordan River seven times?

Activity:

Get a water washable marker or a pen that isn't too tough to wash off (if you don't have a washable marker, you might want to test this on your hand before you try it). Put some dots on your child's arm before their bath and talk about how leprosy could be seen on the skin. Then have them dunk in the tub and help them remove their leprosy.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that you care for us. You cared for Naaman when he was sick and you care for us when we get sick. I pray that we remember to do everything that you tell us to do. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 44

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: Queen Athaliah wanted to destroy the royal family so she could remain queen forever. However, baby Joash and his nurse were hidden away from Queen Athaliah because Joash was to be the next king!

2 Kings 11:3-4, 11:12, 11:19, 11:21, 12:1-2

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Where did they hide baby Joash?

When they brought Joash out to anoint him king, what two things did Jehoiada give him?

How old was Joash when he became king?

Can you imagine being the king of America today?

How long was Joash king of Israel?

As king, did Joash do things God was happy about or sad about?

Activity:

Joash was made king when he was only seven years old! Take a piece of paper and cut it into the shape of a crown. Have your child color in the crown, then loop the pieces together with tape or a safety pin, then crown your child and give them their Bible. Remind them that the reason Joash was able to make God happy as a king was because Joash followed the Bible.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know how much you love children, and we can see that today in how you protected baby Joash. Help us to be like Joash and make smart decisions in our lives in everything we do. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 45

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: The people of Israel had lived in the land of Israel for hundreds of years, from the time of Joshua (recap Joshua and the walls of Jericho) to King David (recap David and Goliath) and Elijah (recap Elijah being fed by ravens) all the way to King Joash we talked about yesterday. But the people of Israel continued to disobey God and stopped loving God. God was very sad about the fact that the people of Israel didn't love him anymore. So God had the people of Israel taken away from Israel to a place called Babylon to help them learn to love God again. While they were in Babylon there lived a man named Daniel.

Daniel 1:1-19

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What were Daniel's three friends names?

What did the king want Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to learn?

What did Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego want to eat and drink?

Why did Daniel and his friends only want to eat vegetables and drink water?

How long did they test Daniel and his friends only eating vegetables and drinking water?

What happened at the end of the 10 day test?

Activity:

The Bible says that Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were the healthiest of all the people because they only ate vegetable and drank water. For one of your meals this week, only eat vegetables and drink water and talk about how Daniel ate meals like this for 10 whole days!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for the food you give us each and every day. We pray that we never forget how blessed we are to have that food to eat for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 46

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What were Daniel's three friends names?

Read:

Read Daniel 3:1, 3:4-8, 3:12-28

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did King Nebuchadnezzar have made that was 90 feet tall?

What did King Nebuchadnezzar want everyone to do when they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments?

Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego get into so much trouble?

Why wouldn't they bow down to the large golden statue?

How did King Nebuchadnezzar punish Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?

What happened when King Nebuchadnezzar threw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the fire?

Activity:

Today, you'll be acting out the parts in this story. (Before you begin, remind your child how dangerous fire is, so we should never play with fire.) Have your child (or children) play the roles of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. You play the king. Set up an idol of your choosing. Command everyone to bow to it. When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refuse, put them into the fire, but have someone else in your family come stand by them and give them a hug. Then when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego come out, be surprised that they survived and remark on how great God must be.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for always looking out for us. Allow us to always be brave and stand up for you God, even when times are hard. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 47

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Daniel 5:1, 5:4-6, 5:8-16, 5:24-29

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What crazy thing did King Belshazzar and his friends see happening during their party?

Who did they have to call to get to tell them what the hand wrote?

Who did Daniel say had written the message on the wall?

Was Daniel able to tell King Belshazzar what the writing meant?

What did King Belshazzar give and make Daniel for telling him what the words meant?

Activity:

You'll need either a washable marker or something to write on a window that comes off (even pudding can do the trick). Have your kids go outside and write something on the window, then come back in and notice that the writing is backwards! The words are hard to read, just like they were for King Belshazzar, but God was able to help Daniel understand what they meant.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, sometimes things happen in our lives that we don't understand. Help us to come to you when we don't know what is happening because you know everything! Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 48

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What did King Belshazzar give and make Daniel for telling him what the words meant?

Read:

Read Daniel 6:3-23, 6:25-27

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Why did the other officials dislike Daniel?

What was Daniel doing when they officials caught him?

What did they do with Daniel as a punishment?

What did they expect to happen to Daniel when he was thrown in the lions den?

What actually happened to Daniel?

What message did King Darius tell everyone when they found Daniel was safe?

Activity:

Find something that your child can hide in that would be fairly tight and fairly dark, such as a large box, under a table with a long table cloth, a closet, etc. Put some stuffed animals in there and then pretend to be King Darius and have your child go into the lions den and put the room into darkness (or semi-darkness, depending on your child). After a brief amount of time come and get your child and celebrate that they survived and praise God for it. Talk about how tough it must have been for Daniel to be there all night but that Daniel trusted God and God protected Daniel.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we are so glad that we can come talk to you every day in prayer, just like Daniel did. Thank you for listening to us when we talk and we pray that we always listen when you talk to us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 49

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 8

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 50

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Esther 2:5-7, 2:17-18, 3:1, 3:8-10, 3:14, 4:8-9, 5:1-2

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who was Mordecai?

What was Haman?

What did Haman want to do with the Jewish people?

What religion were Esther and Mordecai?

What did Mordecai ask Esther to do?

What did King Xerxes hold that allowed Esther to talk?

Activity:

Make yourself a crown out of paper and a scepter out of various items around the house such as a yard stick or an old Christmas wrapping paper tube. Then take turns pretending to be the king or queen of the castle. Have the king or queen put on a bath robe or a towel like a cape and sit in a big chair. Then have the other people in your family come in and the king or queen decides if the person will get to speak. Encourage your child to be generous with who they allow to speak because otherwise, they might not get to speak themselves.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that you are our King. We are so happy because we know that, because you are our king, we can come and speak to you any time in prayer. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 51

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What did Haman want to do to the Jewish people? What did Esther go and ask the king for?

Read:

Esther 5:1-4, 7:1-7a (read the first sentence), 8:1-5, 9:1

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did Esther ask King Xerxes and Haman to come too?

During the dinner, what did Esther ask King Xerxes for?

How did King Xerxes react to Haman's evil plan?

What happened on the day that Haman's plan was supposed to happen?

Activity:

Tonight at dinner, have your child help serve the family dinner. (Examples: Ladle the soup, fill up the cups with water, set out the plates, etc. depending on your child's age and competency levels). Then tell them what a good job they did and how proud you are of them and ask them what request they might ask. (Note: You may want to qualify what they ask for to keep it within reason. So, "What food would you like for dessert?" or "What game would you like to play together tonight?" or "What movie would you like to watch this weekend?") Then grant it to them.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we pray that we not be scared, but that we can be bold when you ask us to be bold. We pray that we can remember you are always here for us no matter what. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 52

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Jonah 1:1-5

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God tell Jonah to do?

Did Jonah listen to God?

What did Jonah do instead?

What happened while Jonah was on the boat?

Where was Jonah while the storm was happening?

Activity:

Have your child try to lay down and go to sleep, then begin to make as much noise as possible. stomp, clap, shout like the sailors did, flash the lights in the room, blow on them, shake their bed, etc. Talk about how Jonah was able to sleep through the entire storm while everyone else was in a panic.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, when you told Jonah to do something he disobeyed, but we pray that when you tell us to do something that we always obey you. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 53

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Note: To cast lots was like an ancient version of picking the shortest straw. It was an ancient superstition that whoever picked the shortest straw must be guilty. In this case God allowed Jonah to be picked being that it was Jonah's fault the storm was there.

Jonah 1:1-17 (will include the recap of verses 1-5)

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who did the lots say was guilty of making God unhappy and causing the storm?

Why did Jonah believe God was causing this storm?

What did Jonah tell the sailors to do to stop the storm?

What happened to the storm when the sailors threw Jonah overboard?

What happened to Jonah when the sailors threw him overboard?

Activity:

Even if you've seen one in person, the size of a whale can be difficult to understand. "At roughly 90 feet long, weighing an average 420,000 pounds, the blue whale is the biggest animal ever known to have lived on earth. Their tongues alone can weigh as much as an elephant. Their hearts, as much as a car. Their blood vessels are wide enough for a human to swim through." - bbc.co.uk

To help your child understand the size of a whale search the internet for, "Whale compared to a man." Help your child understand how little a man is compared to a whale, so it would be very easy for a man to fit into a whale. The insides of a whale's stomach would probably be bigger than any room in your house!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, over the last few weeks we've learned about how you've used ravens and lions and whales to help the people you love. Thank you for making so many amazing animals and thank you for making us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 54

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Read Jonah 1:17, 2:1-10

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did Jonah do when he was swallowed by the fish?

Where was Jonah when he prayed his prayer?

What happened when Jonah was done with his prayer?

Where did the fish spit Jonah up?

How long was Jonah in the belly of the fish?

Activity:

Jonah disobeyed God and God had a fish swallow Jonah to help Jonah remember to obey God. Help your child this week when they disobey. Take your child and swallow them up in your arms. Then talk about how Jonah disobeyed God and the fish swallowed him up. Pray with your child to help them obey. Then carry or move your child to a safe location, maybe on the couch, and spit them up so, like Jonah, that they can now go and do the right thing.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, when Jonah prayed to you, you helped him to follow you in everything that he did. Help us to be able to pray to you when we need something, and to follow of you in everything we do. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 55

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? Do you remember where God called Jonah to go (Jonah 1:1-2)?

Read:

Jonah 2:10, 3:1-10

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

After the fish spit Jonah out, what did God tell Jonah to do?

How long did it take Jonah to see all of Nineveh?

What was the message that Jonah preached?

How did the people of Nineveh act when Jonah told them God's message?

What did God do when the people of Nineveh were sorry for being bad?

Activity:

To show how sorry they were, the people of Nineveh took off their nice clothes, put on burlap. Burlap is a very uncomfortable clothing. If you have any burlap, show it to your children and let them feel it to understand what the people of Nineveh had to wear. If you do not have burlap, find the roughest fabric you have (possible fabrics to consider: a curtain, a rough rag you use to clean with, turning a jacket inside out so the rough side is against your skin). Let your child feel the rough fabric against their skin to know how uncomfortable that would be to wear for a long time. Explain that the reason the people of Nineveh wore their uncomfortable clothes was to show God they were sorry for acting bad.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that, just like you forgave the people in Nineveh for being bad when they asked, you will also forgive us for being bad if we will ask. Help us to remember to always ask for forgiveness when we are bad. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 56

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 9

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Monday - Day 57

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: While the people of Israel were in Babylon we saw Daniel in the lions den, queen Esther save the Jewish people, and Jonah get swallowed by a great big fish. After 70 years of being away from Israel the people of Israel remembered that they needed God. Even before they left Israel, God always had a plan to bring the people back, as he showed in...

Isaiah 44:28, Ezra 1:1-4, 3:7-8, 6:14-16, 6:22

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was the name of the person Isaiah said would help the people of Israel?

What did King Cyrus tell the people of Israel to do?

Do you know what they call a temple today? (A church)

Why do you think that the church was the first thing they wanted to be built?

What did the people of Israel do when they finished building the church?

Activity:

When the people of Israel came back the first thing they did was build a temple. Today, have your child use square or rectangular objects to build a small temple. Use (Note: Tomorrow we're going to start building a wall around the temple so make sure your temple is size appropriate. Possible items could be cards and tape, chex mix squares and glue, etc.) Set the temple aside for tomorrow when the building of the wall begins.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that we can come to you and ask for anything. You always listen to us and help us to remember that you'll always do what is best for us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 58

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: While the people of Israel were in Babylon we saw Daniel in the lions den, queen Esther save the Jewish people, and Jonah get swallowed by a great big fish. After 70 years of being away from Israel the people of Israel remembered that they needed God. So God had them return to Israel. Nehemiah was a leader who helped the people return to Israel.
Nehemiah 1:1-4, 2:1-8

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Why was Nehemiah sad?

What did Nehemiah do when he was sad (see 1:4)?

When King Artaxerxes saw Nehemiah was sad, what did Nehemiah ask the king for?

Did King Artaxerxes give Nehemiah what he asked for?

Activity:

Just like Nehemiah, tomorrow we're going to start building a wall. Take your temple, then set it in the middle of a paper (even a newspaper if you need something bigger) space and draw a line where the walls are going to be. Have your child determine what things they'll need to build a good wall to protect the temple. Then have them request those things from you, and together you find them. Set them aside for tomorrow when the building of the wall begins.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that we can come to you and ask for anything. You always listen to us and help us to remember that you'll always do what is best for us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 59

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What did Nehemiah ask the king for?

Read:

Nehemiah 2:9-12, 2:16-20, 4:1-6

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did Nehemiah do when he first came to Jerusalem?

After Nehemiah had gone around the city, what did he tell the people?

How did the people respond to Nehemiah saying they would rebuild the wall?

What did Sanballat and Tobiah do or say to get Nehemiah to stop building the wall?

How much of the wall did the people of Israel get built by the end of today's story?

Activity:

Yesterday we outlined where the walls should be and we chose the things we want to build the wall with. Today, we begin building the wall. First, have your child look at where the wall will go, just like Nehemiah did. Have your child trace the line with their finger, may be measure it with a ruler. Then have your child start putting their wall together. You will be Sanballat, tell them they probably won't be able to build it. Tell them their wall looks weak and they should probably give up. Ask them how that makes them feel. Remind them that's what Nehemiah had to go through when he was building his wall and it must have been very tough to have people be so mean to him. Have your child complete half the wall, and then put it away for tomorrow's story.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we pray that even though sometimes people say mean things to us, that we know you love us. Help us to remember that, if we are following you, it doesn't matter what other people say. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 60

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What were the names of the people who didn't like Nehemiah building the wall? What did they do to try to stop Nehemiah?

Read:

Nehemiah 4:7-9, 4:19-21, 6:15-16

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

When saying mean things to Nehemiah didn't work, what did Sanballat and Tobiah decide to do to get Nehemiah to stop building the wall?

What did Nehemiah have the people of Israel do when Sanballat and Tobiah said they were going to attack the people and destroy the wall?

How many of the people were guarding the wall at one time?

How long did it take for them to finish building the wall?

What did Nehemiah's enemies realize when the wall was finished?

Activity:

Today the wall is under attack. Adult have your fingers be the bad guys, walking around looking for a place to attack the wall. Have our child set up "guards" to keep you out. The guards can be anything from toys to cereal. Just have your child place them around the city to keep you out. You march around and continue to fail to get in. When your child finishes their wall, then you say you give up and you realize God was with them to help build the wall. That now the temple is safe and you can celebrate and worship God!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for protecting us when bad things come, just like you protected Nehemiah and his wall. We know you are always there for us and we can always talk to you in prayer. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 61

(Note: Today's story may be difficult for younger children to understand. However, if they can grasp it the verses are a good conclusion to the Old Testament.)

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday?

Read:

Please begin with: The people of Israel had rebuilt the temple and the walls around the city. Once they were finished last book of the Old Testament was written. These are the very last words in the Old Testament that predict the coming of someone very special. They show that Jesus will come and save us all!

Malachi 4:2-6

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Do you know who the Sun of Righteousness is who will come and heal the world?

What does God say people should obey?

Why should we obey the Bible today?

What does Malachi say that we will do when Jesus comes (4:2)?

Activity:

The end of the Old Testament tells us that one day Jesus will come and we will leap for joy just like calves let out to pasture. Many calves would be kept in all winter and when they were let out for the first time ever and they touched the grass, the calves would be so excited at their freedom that they would jump and run for joy. Go to YouTube and search, "Calves leaping for joy" and watch a couple of videos of calves jumping for joy. Then have your child jump for joy because we know Jesus came for us and will come for us again.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for Jesus. Thank you that he came for us and now we can leap and sing for joy because we are free. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 62

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday?

Activity:

Tell your child that there are many stories in the Old Testament that look forward to Jesus coming, but they are like puzzle pieces. Tell your child that you can't tell what the picture is with just one piece, but when you put all the pieces together you can see the whole picture. Just like when we put the Old Testament together we can see Jesus! Get a puzzle (or make a puzzle by making a drawing and cutting it into pieces) and put the puzzle together.

Read/Question:

Please begin with: Just like the puzzle we put together, today, we are going to look at some of the puzzle pieces that, when we put them together, help us see Jesus!

Micah 5:2

This verse tells us where Jesus was born. Do you know where Jesus was born?

Isaiah 7:14

This verse tells us that the Jesus will be born with a human mother and God as the father. Just like Jesus!

2 Samuel 7:12-13

This verse tells us that Jesus great grandfather will be David and that Jesus will be king forever! Guess who Jesus' great grandfather was?

Isaiah 53:12

This verse tells that Jesus will die for the sins of many. Do you know how Jesus died?

Psalms 16:10, 49:15

This verse tells that Jesus will not stay dead, that he would defeat death and come back for us! Do you know what we celebrate on Easter? (Jesus coming back!)

It's amazing how all the pieces fit together, just like a puzzle. When we put them all together we can see Jesus everywhere in the Old Testament!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for Jesus. Thank you that you knew he was coming to save us from the very beginning. Thank you for showing us how much you love us and help us to love you too! Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 63

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 10

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. Please note that not all questions will be suitable for all ages, but do continue to challenge your kids with the tougher questions. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone. Even with an easier translation, be prepared to simplify or explain some of the more difficult words that may come up.

Note: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! All of Israel waited and waited and waited for Jesus to come. We'll get to start the New Testament and see Jesus come next week, but for this week, we'll wait for Jesus, just like the people of Israel waited for Jesus. While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told the stories as a reminder that God always keeps his promises. This week we will go back through our last 60 days of family devotions and remember some of the promises God made, as well as remind everyone of the story of the Old Testament.

Monday - Day 64

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! All of Israel waited and waited and waited for Jesus to come. We'll get to start the New Testament and see Jesus come next week, but for this week, we'll wait for Jesus, just like the people of Israel waited for Jesus. While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told the stories as a reminder that God always keeps his promises. This week we'll go back through the stories of the promises God made.

Genesis 1:1-2:3, 2:15-24, 3:1-7, 3:23

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who created everything?

What was the one rule that God told Adam to follow?

What would happen if Adam ate from the tree of good and evil?

What happened to Adam and Eve when they didn't follow the rules and ate from the tree of good and evil?

Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They ate the fruit God when God told them not to and sin entered the world. People started to do bad things. But even when Adam and Eve ate the fruit, God still made them a promise. God promised that one day the devil would be defeated by a descendant of Eve (Read: Genesis 3:14-15).

Do you know who Adam and Eve's great great great great (x100) grandson is?

Activity:

Have your child create something today. Use whatever objects you have around the house and yard, such as tape, glue, scissors, play-doh, and sticks. Once your child has made their creation, have them give it a name and tell you the story of its life.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that, just like Adam and Eve, we all make mistakes, but help us to know right from wrong. God, help us to always remember that, no matter what we do, you will forgive us if we ask you. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tuesday - Day 65

Recap:

Please begin with: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told the stories as a reminder that God always keeps his promises.

Do you remember what happened in our story on yesterday? What happened? What promise did God make to Adam and Eve?

Read:

Genesis 7:6-10, 8:1-4, 9:12-15

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God ask Noah to build?

What promise did God make to Noah after the boat landed?

What was the sign of the promise God made with Noah?

Did God keep his promise?

Activity:

Go on a treasure hunt. Find things in your house that match the colors of the rainbow and lay them out in their proper order.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for the sign of a rainbow. Thank you for its beauty and help us to remember that every time we see it, we can know that you will always keep your promises. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Wednesday - Day 66

Recap:

Please begin with: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told the stories as a reminder that God always keeps his promises.

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What promise did God make to Noah?

Read:

Genesis 17:1-8, 18:9-10, 21:1-7

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What two things did God promise Abram?

Do you know what the land of Canaan is called today?

What did God promise Sarah in our story today?

What did Sarah have in the story today?

How old was Abraham when Sarah had the baby?

Activity:

Today take your children out into the back yard or a park. Find some sandy soil and grab a handful of sand. Try to count all of the grains of sand. God told Abraham that he would have as many children as there were stars in the sky, as many children as there was sand on the beach. Think of how many people that would be!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we remember how you kept your promise to Abraham and Sarah. Thank you for always keeping your promises to us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Thursday - Day 67

Recap:

Please begin with: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told the stories as a reminder that God always keeps his promises.

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What two promises did God make to Abraham? Which one did God do yesterday?

Read:

Exodus 3:1-10, 12:31

Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and, after 40 years in the wilderness, to the edge of the land of Israel. There, Joshua took over leading the people into Israel.

Joshua 6:1-5, 6:12-15, 6:20, 11:23

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God appear to Moses as?

What did God ask Moses to do with the people of Israel?

What did God ask Joshua and the Israelites to do?

What did the Israelites do after they marched around the seventh time on the seventh day?

In this story, Joshua and the Israelites finally see God's promise to Abraham fulfilled. What happens in this story?

Activity:

Parent, you stand as the mighty walls of Jericho. Have your child walk around you seven times while you say things like, "What are you doing!?!? This will never work! You only have horns to blow! These walls will never fall!" Then, after the seventh time, have your child scream and clap. Then you, the adult, collapse to the floor and admit defeat.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we pray that we can be patient in waiting for your promises. Sometimes they may take days, sometimes they may take years, but help us to always be thankful and remember that you keep your promises. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Friday - Day 68

Recap:

Please begin with: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told the stories as a reminder that God always keeps his promises.

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What two promises did God make to Abraham? Which one did God do yesterday?

Read:

Please begin with: The people of Israel moved into the land of Israel and soon had a king. David defeated the giant Goliath and was later crowned king.

1 Samuel 16:1, 16:12-13, 2 Samuel 5:3-4, 7:1-5, 7:12-13

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What did God (through Samuel) promise David that David was going to become?

Did God do what he promised?

Because King David loved God so much, what did God promise David? (God promised that one of David's great great great great grandson's would be a king forever!)

Do you know who King David's great great great great grandson (x50) was?

Activity:

As a boy, David was anointed with oil by the prophet Samuel. This consisted of taking oil (regular oil will do, although if you want the exact recipe see Exodus 30:23-24) and placing it upon the head of the person who was sick or who they were praying for. Take a bit of oil from your kitchen. Place some on your finger (scriptures also reference pouring it heavily on the person's head, depending on how messy you want to get) and place it in the forehead of your child. Then pray a prayer over your child. Remind them that this is much like Samuel did for David when he was a boy.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you so much for keeping your promises. You kept your promises to Abraham, and to Moses, and to Joshua, and to David, and you still keep your promises to us today. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Saturday - Day 69

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened? What two promises did God make to David? Which one did God do yesterday?

Read:

Please begin with: After King David died, the people of Israel eventually stopped loving and following God. They did whatever they wanted to do. So God had the people of Israel taken away from Israel to a place called Babylon to help them learn to love God again. Many people, like Daniel, realized how important it was to love and follow God. Then God fulfilled his promise to the people of Israel.

Deuteronomy 30:1-5, Ezra 4:1-4

Question:

What was God's promise to Israel when they were taken away from their home?

Please read: The people of Israel returned home. They rebuilt the temple and the walls around the city. Once they were finished last book of the Old Testament was written, and God made his final promise in the Old Testament.

Read:

Malachi 4:2-6

Do you know who the Sun of Righteousness is who will come and heal the world? What does Malachi say that we will do when Jesus comes (4:2)?

Please read: After Malachi was written, there were no more prophets or writings in the Bible for nearly 400 years! While the people of Israel waited for Jesus to come, they read from the Old Testament and remembered some of the stories. The stories were all about God's promises to his people. The Israelites told all the stories we read this week as a reminder that God always keeps his promises.

Activity:

Ask your child what their favorite story from the Old Testament was. If possible, find a way for you and your child to act out that story. Allow your child to live out the characters from the story that they love the best. Maybe even let them do the narration while everyone else acts it out. For more fun record it on video and show it to your friends and family to show what your child has learned and as a fun way to share their love for God.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you so much for keeping your promises. You kept your promises to Abraham, and to Moses, and to Joshua, and to David, and you still keep your promises to us today. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Sunday - Day 70

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was your favorite story from this week?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for this week. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."